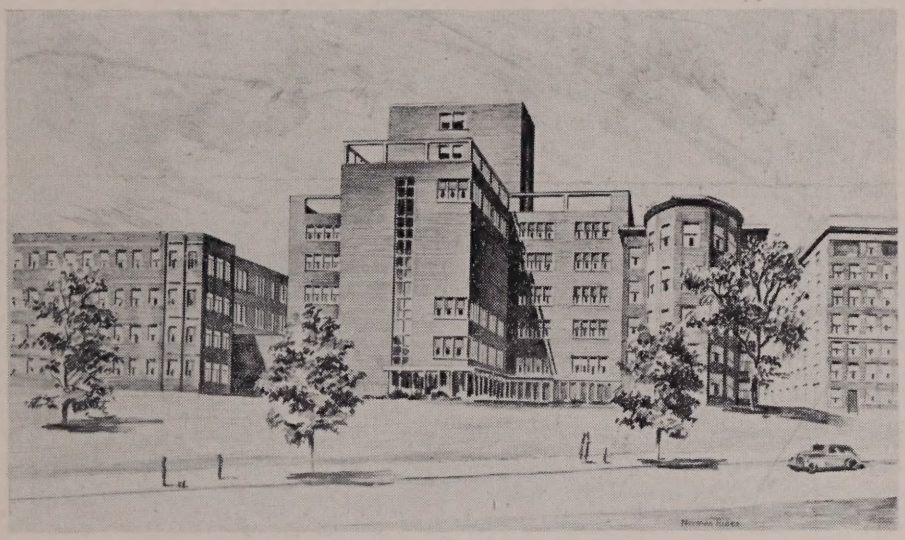
The Pulse

NEWS of the NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES

Volume 5, No. 7 October 1950

Construction Of New Building Underway



Artist's conception of the new central building.

The week of October 16, ground was broken and construction started on the new central building. This is an event which has been long awaited by the Hospital, doctors, friends and employees alike. The cut (shown above) is an artist's drawing based on the most recent blueprints.

The erection of the new building will greatly benefit the Hospital by providing centralized services and a net gain of approximately seventy-five beds. When completed the new building will be directly connected to both the Deaconess and Baker buildings so that the three will appear to be a single structure. The main entrance will be from Pilgrim Road opposite Harris Hall. The present entrances to the Baker building and Deaconess I, will be permanently closed. Underground passages will connect the new building also with Harris Hall and the Cancer Research Institute.

Bowling League

The 1950-51 Bowling League got off to a good start on September 19. There are again ten teams participating, the only change being that the Pathology Lab. team, Captained by Dr. Young, will replace the Operating Room Team.

Handicaps this year are figured on a 100 pinfall par basis with each member having a handicap of two-thirds the difference between his average last year and 100. It has been agreed that after ten sessions and again after twenty sessions, the handicap of each member will be refigured.

To clarify any misunderstanding, each bowler receives credit toward awards only for the strings bowled on his own team. If the same person bowls in more than one position on a team, only the first position in each case will receive credit.

Every week a listing of each player's average will be posted on the Harris Hall bulletin board. This entails considerable work but we shall try to have your records posted before the next bowling night comes around.

This year, to boost the "bowling kitty" for trophies, it has been suggested that a basket be raffled at

(Continued on second page)

Miss Olive Lydia Nelson New Director of Nursing

Official announcement was made on July 19th of the appointment of Miss Olive Lydia Nelson as Superintendent of Nurses and Principal of the School of Nursing. In making the appointment, it was disclosed that for the first time in 20 years a graduate of the Deaconess was being promoted to this key position.

Miss Nelson succeeds Miss Margaret M. Shrader, who has held the position for the last six years and who is retiring from active nursing service. Until the week of the announcement, the Administration of the Hospital had been deeply concerned about obtaining a successor to Miss Shrader, for, owing to its many specialities, the Deaconess is unique. For this reason, the position of Superintendent of Nurses is by no means routine. With the unanimous approval of the Nursing School Committee, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees and of the Administration, Miss Nelson was offered the position and accepted it.

Since graduating in 1926, Miss Nelson has by no means limited her career to service in this Hospital, nor even to service in this country. For two years immediately following graduation, she

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Highest Single Strings to Date:

Miss Whittemore 104

Mr. Lowry 111

The Pulse

OCTOBER, 1950
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of the
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Editorial

The time is again at hand for the annual collection for the United Community Services (formerly Community Fund). The goal for Greater Boston is seven million dollars, a substantial increase over last year's goal. This means that all groups asked to contribute are being urged to increase their individual goals. This year, ours is $3,350.

Well, taken as a whole, that's a lot of money. But, when you stop to think about it, it really is not so formidable. In the first place, the over-all goal would not have been increased if the many agencies whose service to all of us were adequately meeting the needs of this community. In the second place, if our six hundred employees would pledge $5.20 each — ten cents a week for a year — we would attain our goal.

Many countries have no services like those provided by the Community Chest. We do not fully know what is happening to the indigent people in those countries but we do know that in times of national stress, they have been liquidated.

The doctors of this country are spending a million dollars this year in advertising the Free American Way of Life. By supporting such enterprises as the Community Fund you are adding your bit toward such endeavors to keep America free from regimentation.

We work for a voluntary hospital — pretty good proof of our belief in our own system. If the system is to continue, it must have the support of each one. Is ten cents a week too much to ask?

WARREN F. COOK,
Executive Director.

Department of the Month

Solution Room

When you hear the Solution Room mentioned, steaming hot water, quantities of tubing and countless crystal-clear flasks flash to mind, but exactly what does go on there? We went over to Palmer V the other day and had a chat with Miss Dorothy Blanchard, supervisor of the Solution Room for the last eleven years.

We confirmed that they make solutions all right — 36,965 in 1949, to be exact. But, that is not all. Miss Blanchard explained the routine and told us of its development.

The Solution Room started about 14 years ago as the result of a great increase in use by doctors of intravenous injections and feedings. These treatments became so numerous that soon the doctors turned to the nurses, trained some in the technique of administering "IV's" and thus lessened the drain on their own time that these treatments were taking. It was not until after the outbreak of World War II that responsibility for this service was finally vested at the Deaconess in these specially trained nurses. It has been so ever since.

There are about a dozen standard solutions put up each day in varying quantities. Most of them are saline or glucose solutions of various concentrations. The first step in the preparation is to produce distilled water. The Solution Room has two stills whose average daily output is about 150 gallons. The distilled water is then drawn off into flasks of varying sizes and mixed with the appropriate amount of salt or dextrose. After exact measure, the flasks are capped and placed in the autoclave, where they are sterilized at 250 pounds' pressure for twenty minutes.

By one o'clock each day, the solutions are finished and the sterilizing of intravenous sets, needles, gauze and tubing commences. The Solution Room supplies many sections of the hospital with large quantities of rubber and plastic tubing used for drainage, feeding or internal diagnosis. All branches of the hospital using such supplies send requisitions each day to the Solution Room and the unsterile or used materials are returned for sterilizing. The Operating Suites are equipped with stills for making their own distilled water, but all other departments are supplied from the Solution Room.

In addition to making the solutions and furnishing certain sterile equipment, another major responsibility of the staff of the Solution Room is to make the rounds of the hospital constantly, administering the solutions as ordered by the doctors and taking the blood chemistries. Miss Blanchard pointed out that her staff merely draws the blood and then sends it to the Chem. Lab. for analysis. Owing to the absolute necessity for avoiding contamination, these nurses exercise the most meticulous care in these procedures. Each has a kit specially designed for this work and nothing short of perfection is acceptable. Last year alone, 25,738 intravenous treatments were performed.

To achieve perfection, the eight nurses have been individually trained by Miss Blanchard for a period of three months in every aspect of the work of the Solution Room. They are now experts and between them maintain a 24-hour-a-day schedule with rotation of duties. All of them are graduates of nearby schools of nursing and each has selected this work by choice. None of them has been drafted!

Bowling League

(Continued from first page)

Thanksgiving. More news about this event later!

The season will end with a play-off match between the first eight teams. Everyone agrees that competition promises to be keener than ever and the play-offs will undoubtedly be a highly exciting climax.

The bowling league standings as of October 11, are printed on the first page.

DEPARTMENTAL NOTES

Engagements

Miss Florence R. Brown, Supervisor of Surgery, to Master Sgt. John A. Carlin of East Greenwich, Rhode Island.

Miss Eleanor M. Giorgio, Admitting Office, to Mr. Marshall Mazzarella of Roxbury, Massachusetts. The date of the wedding is April, 1951.

Miss Clara Louise Algeri, Pathology Laboratory, to Richard William Mahon of Roxbury.

Weddings

Mr. Arnold Tompkins, Laundry, to Sally Wills at Mansfield, Massachusetts, on September 1st. Their residence will be in Boston.

Miss Barbara Williams, Pathology Laboratory, to Mr. Charles Chojnowski at the Sacred Heart Church, Watertown, June 25th. Their residence will be 639 Main Street, New London, Conn.

Miss Elizabeth James, Solution Room, to Mr. John P. Pachlhofer at Houston, Texas, on July 14th. They will make their home in Houston.

Births

A son, Robert Alfred, to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Marshall (Jean Morrissey) on June 30, 1950. The Marshalls reside in Duxbury. Mrs. Marshall was formerly from the Pathology Laboratory.

A daughter, Deborah Holloway, to Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Byrne, on August 26, 1950. Mr. Byrne is Public Relations Director at the Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pollak announce the birth of a baby daughter, Cathy Jeanne, on May 29, 1950. Mrs. Pollak is the former Ida Jean Tobias who was employed in the Social Service Department until last December.

Deaths

Miss Betty Downey of Ogdenburg, New York, former secretary in the Social Service Department, was recently a patient in the Deaconess Hospital. Several days after her discharge, she died on July 12, 1950, at the Middletown Connecticut Hospital. Her many friends and associates here wish to express their sympathy to her family.

The Hospital extends its sympathy to the family and friends of Miss Ruby L. Bull, who died at Houlton, Maine on September 21, 1950. Miss Bull was a graduate of the Class of '22.

Laundry

A meeting of the Laundry Association on August 24th was attended by 45 members. Inspection of new machinery at the laundry was followed by a meeting at Baker classroom. A buffet supper was served at the Main Cafeteria in Harris Hall.

Pathology

Dr. Sheldon C. Sommers has returned to Pathology Laboratory as Associate Pathologist.

Dr. Samuel P. Hicks of Pathology was appointed acting Pathologist at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital.

Social Service

Dr. and Mrs. William Drake will move to Indianapolis, Indiana, where Dr. Drake has been appointed chief pathologist at the Indianapolis City Hospital. Mrs. Drake is the former Priscilla Moldenke, a worker in the Social Service Department, and Dr. Drake was formerly with our Pathology Department.

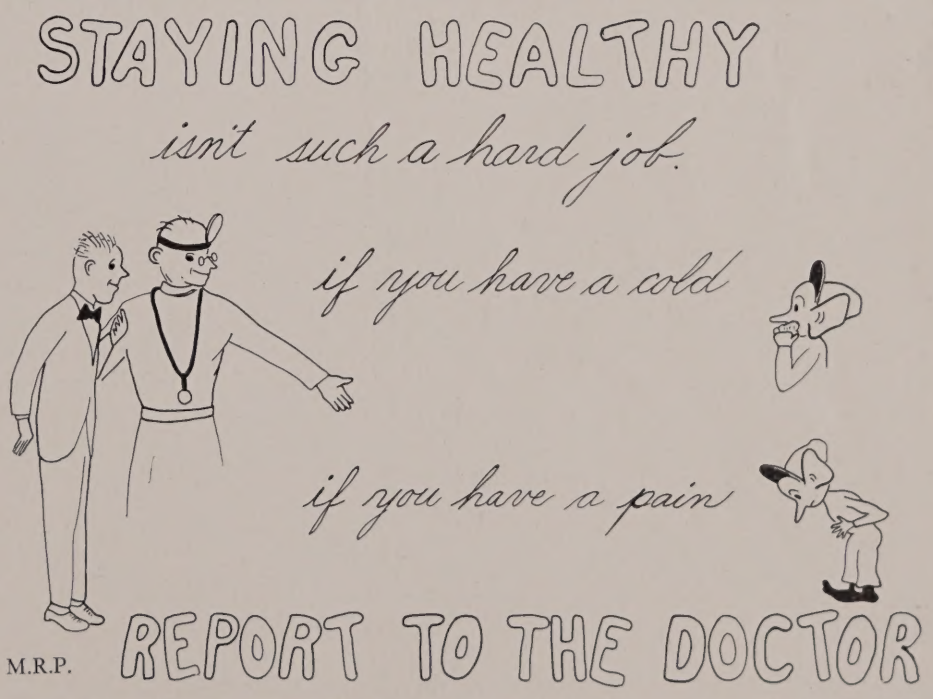
Miss Harrison Resigns

It was with regret that the hospital administration accepted the resignation of Miss Gladys Harrison who has been a valued employee for the past 12 years; first as a medical secretary in the Palmer record room, later as a secretary in the Social Service Department. Miss Harrison did a most efficient job especially with the Out Patient Clinics, developing a number of new systems for conducting the work. She was an ideal person for that particular position, and dealt with the patients, doctors, and the many details incident to a busy clinic with tact and skill.

Miss Harrison's associates tendered her a farewell dinner at the Toll House in Whitman and she was given a purse as a farewell gift.

She will make her home with her sister, Mrs. Charles J. Jacobs, 188 Waldemere Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Since she will not be working, she would appreciate hearing from her many friends in the hospital.

Public Health Notes



Staying healthy isn't such a hard job! But, first of all, it means preventing little ills from growing into big ones. The common Cold, for example, can be harmless, but without due attention and rest it may become complicated. A sore throat may be the forerunner of any number of serious conditions. *IT IS SAFE TO BE SURE!*

Throughout the coming year, remember that our First Aid Room on Palmer II is there to serve you. Report your chills and ills — don't give your germs to innocent bystanders and fellow workers. *BE WISE — STAY HEALTHY*

News of the Nursing Department

Weddings

Miss Ruth Elizabeth Eastman to Mr. Richard Stuart Lee at the East Winthrop Baptist Church on September 3rd. They will reside in East Winthrop, Maine. Miss Eastman has been Nursing Arts Instructor at NEDH since 1946.

Miss Winifred Carter, '51 Sr., to Mr. John Gorman Hoyt at Topsfield, Massachusetts, on July 9th.

Miss Doreen Eleanor Hallock, '50 Jr., to Mr. James Bradbury at St. Mary's Church, Dedham, Massachusetts, on August 17th.

Miss Eleanor Inga Stokes, '50 Jr., to Mr. Peter Stanton at First Congregational Church, Somerville, Massachusetts, on August 10th.

Dr. William Downing to Miss Evelyn Kirschbaum at Queens Village, New York, on August 19. Mrs. Downing is a Deaconess graduate and a former Head Nurse on Baker 5. Dr. Downing was a resident at Palmer and Assistant to Dr. Franseen. The couple will make their home in Attleboro, Massachusetts.

Miss Helen Mae Shaw, '45 Jr., to Mr. Joseph William Yelle at St. Joseph's Church, Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts, on August 19th. The couple will make their home at 5 Bridge Street, Shelburne Falls.

Miss Ruth Porter, '49 Jr., to Mr. Frank E. Cuptill, Jr. at El Paso, Texas, on July 25th. Their residence is 558 West Dorland Street, Whittier, California.

Miss Jean Elizabeth Court, '49 Sr., to Mr. Robert Bruce MacKay at Holden Congregational Church on August 26th. The couple will reside at 303 Highland Street, Holden, Massachusetts.

Mr. Thomas J. Army to Miss Greta Louise Garland, '48 Jr., on Friday evening, September 8, Church of the Messiah, Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Mrs. Army was with the Elliott P. Joslin Camp, Charlton, Massachusetts. Mr. Army has begun work for a Doctorate at North Carolina State College where he has been awarded a research fellowship.

Miss Dorothy Ann DeCelle, '46 Jr., to Mr. David Hayes Potter at the Village Church, West Townshend, Vermont, on June 19th. The couple will reside on Stanwich Road, Greenwich, Connecticut.

Miss Carol Whiting, '48 Jr., to Mr. David Daniel MacCord at First Congregational Church of Milton on June 15th. They reside in Dorchester, Massachusetts.

Miss Nancy May Stoddard, '52 Sr., to Mr. Joseph S. Pelis at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, on July 3rd. The couple will reside at Durham, N. H.

Engagements

Miss Lillian Gertrude Campbell, '48 Jr., to Mr. Samuel C. Walker. Miss Campbell is a Staff Duty Nurse at Waltham General Hospital. Mr. Walker is employed at the Newton-Waltham Bank and Trust Company.

Miss Janet Sandra Kinsley to Mr. Richard Johnson. Miss Kinsley will complete her course in December '50. Mr. Johnson is a Marine Corps Veteran. He was a student in Meteorology in Tulsa, Okla.

Miss Sarah Murchie Weeks, '51 Jr., to Mr. Lewis B. Paine. Mr. Paine is a senior in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Maine.

Miss Freda P. McLaughlin, '51 Sr., to Mr. Gerald Alfred Richardson. Mr. Richardson is attending Northeastern University.

Miss Doris Adelaide MacKenzie, '50 Sr., to Mr. Roger M. Eckels of Hamden, Massachusetts.

Births

A son, Richard Paul, Jr., to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Paul Mooney (Irma Hunt, '49 Sr.) on June 10, 1950. The Mooneys are living at 16 Autumn Street, Boston.

A daughter, Diana Lindley, to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth M. Knobel (Sally Lamont, '47 Jr.) on August 5th. They live at 52 Mystic Lake Drive, Arlington.

New Director of Nursing

(Continued from first page)

went to Labrador with the Grenfell Association. During that time, she was called upon to do everything from organizing social functions and teaching cooking to the native girls down to surgery. The doctor in the area was often away for weeks at a time and Miss Nelson was obliged to care for any medical disorders or accident cases that occurred until the doctor could be reached.

From 1928 to 1932, Miss Nelson was at the Deaconess, but soon she had a renewed desire to do missionary work abroad. This time, she went just about half way around the world and stayed for ten years in Southern India. In preparation for this work, she attended the Selly Oak Colleges in Birmingham, England, for one year of special training, before assuming the position of Superintendent of Nurses and Principal of the School of Nursing at the American Mission Hospital for Women and Children in Madura. During the ten years she was there, Miss Nelson learned the local Indian vernacular and, like all other foreigners, tried to avoid succumbing to one of the many tropical diseases. At last, one of them got the better of her and she was forced to leave. In 1943, her voyage home completed the tour of the world, taking her to Australia and thence across the Pacific to San Francisco, dodging the war as much as possible all the way.

Excepting a year's leave of absence for study at Boston University, Miss Nelson has been "home" at the Deaconess since 1944. She assumed her new responsibility on September 7th.

1953 Seniors Capped

On Friday evening, July 21st, thirty-seven student nurses were awarded caps at the traditional candle-light ceremony in Harris Hall. The girls were "capped" by Miss Margaret M. Shrader, retiring Principal of the School of Nursing, and the main speaker was the Reverend Mr. Rudolph L. Samuelson, Chaplain to the Hospital.